Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 7, 2025

May you find Christ here… May you bring Christ to the world.

Welcome!

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass
Monday-Friday: 6:30am, 8am
Saturday: 8am

Weekend Mass
Saturday Vigil: 5pm
Sunday: 8am, 10am, 12pm, 5:30pm

Confessions
Monday-Friday: 7:30-7:50am (Church)
Saturday: 4-4:50pm (Church) or by appointment
Sunday: by appointment

Holy Days
Vigil for Feast Day: 5:30pm

Parish Information

403 N. Main Street
O'Fallon, MO 63366
Parish Office: 636-240-3721

Parish Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday: 8am-4pm
Friday: 8am-3pm; Summer 8am-2pm

SACRAMENTS AND PARISH INFORMATION

ANOINTING OF THE SICK
Please call the Parish Office, 636-240-3721. Select Option #2.

BAPTISM
Baptism is scheduled every Sunday at 1:15pm. Baptism preparation class is required. Call Angie Gloriod, ext 235.

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE
Contact the Parish Office six months in advance. One party must be a registered member of Assumption and living an active, practicing Catholic life. Contact Angie Gloriod at the Parish Office, ext 235.

CONFIRMATION
Preparation begins in September for students entering eighth grade. For more information, call Holly Woytus, 636-240-1020.

FIRST COMMUNION
Preparation begins in September for students entering second grade. For more information, call Holly Woytus, 636-240-1020.

FUNERALS
Please call Debbie Collins at the Parish Office at 636-240-3721, ext 221.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (formally RCIA)
Process through which adults are initiated into the Catholic Church by Baptism or Profession of Faith. Contact Missy Lowrey, 314-630-3983.

Welcome

403 N. Main St.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
assumptionbvm.org

Assumption Staff
636-240-3721 and Ext:

Pastor
242 Rev. Nick Kastenholz
nicholaskastenholz@archstl.org

Senior Associate Pastor
226 Msgr. Dennis Stehly
dennisstehly@archstl.org

In Residence
Rev. Patrick Russell

Deacons
Deacon Fred Volansky
Deacon Richard Tadlock
deaconrichard@charter.net

Parish Manager
225 Mark Vogt
business@abvmtech.org

Parish Secretary
221 Debbie Collins
debbiecollins@abvmtech.org

Bulletin Announcements:
bulletin.assumption@gmail.com
(by Tuesday at 9am)

Bookkeeper
234 Mary Knapp
accounting@abvmtech.org

Director of Religious Education and PSR Director
328 Holly Woytus; 636-240-1020
hwoytus@abvmtech.org

Baptism/Wedding Coordinator; Records and Scheduling
235 Angie Gloriod
agloriod@abvmtech.org

Director of Youth Ministry
243 Becky Whitaker
beckywhitaker@abvmtech.org

Director of Music Ministry
Elizabeth Smith
music@abvmtech.org

Director of Communication
239 Nancy Gomer
ngomer@abvmtech.org

Parish Day School/Preschool Principal: Jamie Burbridge
636-240-4474

Child Safety Coordinator
Lynn Crews 314-578-0741
lynncrews@abvmtech.org

Parish Council
abvparishcouncil3721@gmail.com

School Board
abvmschoolboard@gmail.com

Hello,

This last week our second graders celebrated their Frist Reconciliation. As we see them taking this important step in their lives, hopefully it makes us consider being open to the grace of this sacrament ourselves. At one time the sacrament was a weekly practice for many before they would receive the Eucharist each week, but today many Catholics would be hard-pressed to tell you how many years it has been since they celebrated the sacrament of Confession. I'm not saying that we all need to go weekly, but I can be pretty sure that if you haven't gone in a decade that it might not be a bad idea to make a good examination of conscience.

There are various reasons why it may have been a long time since someone has gone to Confession and I will try to address some of them:

I don't have any mortal sins: Great, and yes, venial sins are forgiven when we celebrate Mass. But we don't need to have a mortal sin to benefit from the special grace God offers in this sacrament. If we are not open to that grace now it can only make it easier to fall into mortal sin and be harder to be open to the sacrament at that time.

I know I'm just going to do the same sins again: We might, and for some of the sins we probably will. But if we do not take the time to recognize and admit that they are sins, to realize we need forgiveness for them, and to ask for God's help those vices that led us to these sins will only grow. The sacrament not only forgives us our sins, but the grace from the sacrament can also help to develop virtues and overcome the temptations in the future.

It's been so long I forgot what I'm supposed to say: It is easiest just to start out saying "Bless me Father for I have sinned. It has been _____months/years since my last confession." You confess your sins and the priest will talk to you and give you a penance. Then you pray an act of contrition. You can use your own words or use a standard prayer such as "My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy." (This or a similar act of contrition is also available on cards in most confessionals.) The priest will then give you the blessing of absolution.

God doesn't need me to confess to a priest for my sins to be forgiven: Correct, God can do anything. But God gave us the Church and the sacraments as means to be open and cooperate with his grace. If we believe in God and the Church, then we should try to cooperate with Him.

As a priest it is an incredible blessing to be able to minister the sacrament of Confession. Hearing people's struggles in their lives who are truly sorry for their sins and striving to grow in their faith and their closeness to God is encouraging for me to see in those around me and to know that with God's help, I can also overcome temptations in my life. Next weekend we will be having a Reconciliation Weekend, where a priest will be available in the chapel from 6-9pm on Friday evening and 9am-3:30pm on Saturday. Our regular Confession schedule here at Assumption is Monday-Friday from 7:30-7:50am and on Saturday 4-4:50pm. As we prepare for Christ's coming, what better way than to celebrate this sacrament.

Peace,

Fr. Nick

ASSUMPTION PRAYER CHAPEL

Adoration is available 24/7 in the Chapel (the old church) by using the code at the north transit entrance. You can call or come to the Church Office to receive the code.

EXPOSITION is on Tuesdays, 9am-10pm. At 6:15pm, the Rosary is prayed, followed by our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions. Exposition continues until 10pm.

PRAY THE ROSARY BEFORE WEEKEND MASSES

Please join us in Church 30-minutes before each weekend Mass for the Rosary (except 5:30 pm Mass on Sundays). We gather and pray before the Holy Family Statue.

BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINES

It's that time of year again! Articles are needed early for the busy holiday season.

- Articles for the **December 21 bulletin will be due on Thursday, December 11 by 9am** (instead of Tuesday, December 16)
- Articles for the **December 28 bulletin will be due on Friday, December 19 by 9am** (instead of Tuesday, December 23)
- Articles for the **January 4 bulletin will be due on Tuesday, December 23 by 9am** (instead of Tuesday, December 30)

Please send articles to bulletin.assumption@gmail.com.

ADVENT SEASON MASSES AND EVENTS

Monday, December 8: Holy Day of Obligation
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Mass: 6:30am, 8am and 7pm (Church)

Assumption School Christmas Program
Tuesday, December 9, 6pm:
PreK and Kindergarten in the Church
Tuesday, December 16, 6pm:
1st-4th Grade in the Church

Sunday, December 14: Christmas Choral Concert
3pm in the Chapel

December 17-23: Christmas Novena
7pm in the Chapel

Christmas Masses

Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Vigil
4pm, 6pm (Church) and 4:15pm (Chapel)
10pm (Church) final night of Novena begins at 9:30pm

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day
8am, 10am and 12pm (Church)

New Years Eve/New Years Day Masses

Wednesday, December 31: New Year's Eve
6:30am, 8am, and 5:30pm (Vigil) (Church)

Thursday, January 1: New Year's Day
Feast of the Solemnity of Mary
8am and 10am (Church)

Confessions Schedule

Monday–Friday: 7:30–7:50am before 8am Mass (Church)
Saturdays: 4–4:50pm before 5pm Mass (Church)

Reconciliation Weekend
Friday, December 12, 6–9pm (Chapel)
Saturday, December 13, 9am–3:30pm (Chapel)

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Kendall Fetter
daughter of Nick and Trista Fetter

MEN OF ASSUMPTION PARISH

Our Church and our World needs you, man of God!

Join us **Saturday, December 6** in the lower hall of the Knights of Columbus building for another fantastic session of TMIY. Our start time is **7:15am** with breakfast, a short video, table discussion, and then we'll have you on your way by **8:30am. This is our last study for the fall.** We hope to see you this weekend!

This week's session, "A Sweet Exchange"
(Mysteries of the Rosary-Joyful Mysteries)
Presenter: Mark and Jamie Hartfiel

- Theme: Called to Joy
- We Must All Retreat to Pray and Find God in the Silence
- Living Communion with Jesus
- The Gift of Marian Consecration
- Follow the Saints in Meditating Christ's Life
- Our Christian Communities Need to Become Schools of Prayer

For more information, contact Deacon Richard Tadlock at 314-397-2433 or DeaconRichard@charter.net.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

This week we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. **Join us at 7pm in the Church for Mass.**

O'FALLON KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #2269 UPCOMING EVENTS

Queen of Hearts raffle | Every Tuesday

Join us every Tuesday for our weekly raffle. Doors open at 5pm with drawing at 7pm. Food and beverages available for purchase.

LET'S GIVE THANKS, GIVE BACK AND GIVE CATHOLIC

THROUGH DECEMBER 9

This is a special opportunity for us to come together as a community to give thanks for the blessings we've received and to give back to the place that has been a cornerstone of faith, love, and fellowship for over 154 years.

To donate, visit bit.ly/assumptionigivecatholic.

God bless you abundantly for your kindness.

SCAN ME

CHRISTMAS CHORAL CONCERT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 | 3PM

The Choral Arts Singers invite you to join us for our 53rd year of musical performance as we present our annual Christmas Concert here at Assumption Parish in the CHAPEL.

"Winter Wonderland" features our concert title song, the joyous and expansive "Te Deum" by Karl Jenkins, a "White Christmas (choral medley)," as well as other beautiful and fun holiday favorites. We hope that you can join us for a fun and festive afternoon of music with our new director Wendi Dicken.

Admission is free, but donations are appreciated to help the Concert Arts Association continue their efforts of bringing musical enjoyment to our community.

For additional information and concert dates, contact Bonnie Lang at 636-887-2899 or visit concertarts.org and Facebook (Choral Arts Singers).

Mass Times and Intentions	SUNDAY 12.7.25	MONDAY 12.8.25	TUESDAY 12.9.25	WEDNESDAY 12.10.25
	8:00am People of the Parish	6:30am Timothy Flick	6:30am Alice Forbeck	6:30am Terri Zerr
	10:00am Morgan Wilcox	8:00am Michael Phillips	8:00am Dennis Bange	8:00am Tom Groark
	12:00pm Gene Thornhill	7:00pm Jerry Schoenherr		
	5:30pm Chris Ryan			
Reconciliation	By Appointment	7:30-7:50am Church or by appointment	7:30-7:50am Church or by appointment	7:30-7:50am Church or by appointment

50 PLUS CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER 15 | 6:30PM

Join us on Monday, December 15 in Hall C. Doors open at 6pm, dinner will be served at 6:30pm. Dean Andrew catering will be here serving fried chicken, roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, and rolls. Please bring some type of dessert or cool whip salad. We will have coffee, water, and lemonade for drinks.

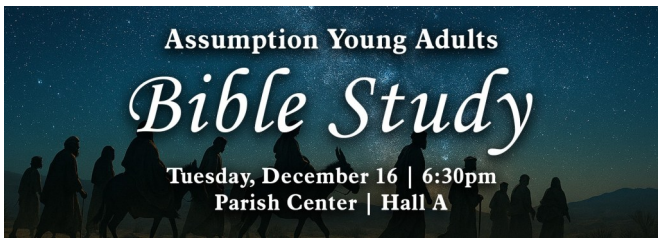
Ken Follett will be entertaining us after dinner with some Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tom Jones, and Elvis. The cross that you glazed will be available for pick up at the dinner also. God bless us with good weather on December 15!

ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY NIGHT
DECEMBER 16 | 6:30PM

Would you like to make Scripture part of your daily life? Join us Tuesday, December 16 at 6:30pm in Parish Center Hall A.

Bring your Bible and dive into God's Word with reflection, discussion, and prayer. This is a welcoming space for all young adults to grow in faith together.

For more details, contact Logan at 636-541-0765.



THURSDAY 12.11.25

6:30am	Tim Kohlenhoefer
8:00am	Ivan and Margaret Phillips

7:30-7:50am Church
or by appointment

FRIDAY 12.12.25

6:30am	Alice Forbeck
8:00am	Joe Orf

7:30-7:50am Church
or by appointment

SATURDAY 12.13.25

8:00am	Bill Giblin
5:00pm	Ben Shepker Family

4-4:50pm Church
or by appointment

SUNDAY 12.14.25

8:00am	Bill Thomas
10:00am	People of the Parish
12:00pm	Jack Begley
5:30pm	Margaret and Everett Hallett

By Appointment

ST. VINCENT de PAUL GIVING TREE
DONATIONS DUE THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

Thank you to everyone who chose a tag from our Giving Trees. Please return the tags, attached to your **WRAPPED GIFT**, to the downstairs tree in the Parish Hall **no later than Sunday, December 7, prior to the noon mass**.

Also, the following donation items are in need for our Christmas Event: Our Neighbors-In-Need and the homeless lack the necessities that we often take for granted. When they pick up their gift items from the Giving Tree at our annual Christmas Event, they also may choose other basic needs items that we make available. **ALL donation items (NEW ONLY PLEASE) should be placed UNWRAPPED in the boxes provided in the pre-function area of the Parish Center NO LATER THAN NOON on SUNDAY, DECMEBER 7.**

If you would like to donate **NEW** items to our basic needs table, please choose from the following:

- Skillets/Pots and Pans
- Mixing bowls
- Flatware/Silverware sets
- Blankets - any size
- Towels
- Kitchen towels/dishcloths
- Hot pads
- Sheet sets
  - Full/Queen
  - Twin - Kid Themed
  - King
- Bathrobes - Adult
- Casual Tops/Sweatshirts - Women
- Leggings/Slacks - Women
- Flannel Shirts/Sweatshirts - Men
- Warm Socks (all sizes)
- Pajama Pants
  - Teens Male and Female
- New rolls of Gift Wrap
- Rolls of Scotch Tape
- Bows for gift wrapping
- Prepackaged **holiday treats**
  - Twinkies/Little Debbie's
  - Tins of Popcorn
  - Cookies
  - Bagged/Boxed Holiday Candies
- Art and Craft **KITS** - Youth and Teen
- Footballs/Soccer balls/Basketballs
  - Youth and Teen
- Winter Hats and Gloves
  - All sizes and ages

Thank you so much for your prayerful consideration. Happy Holidays to each of you!

If you have any questions, please call Georgia, 717-919-7312 or Linda, 636-248-6385.

ATTENTION MEN OF THE PARISH
WANT TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOREVER?

Now you can when register for the upcoming Men's RENEWAL Retreat Weekend (formerly CRHP) planned for Saturday, February 21 and Sunday, February 22, 2026.

This two-day walk with Christ allows you and other fellow parishioners to energize your faith by strengthening your connection with Him. RENEWAL Weekend is a spiritual weekend (Saturday 8am–Sunday 4pm) designed to help you grow in your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. During the break from your daily routine, you will likely hear Him speak to you.

RENEWAL is…

Changing Lives.

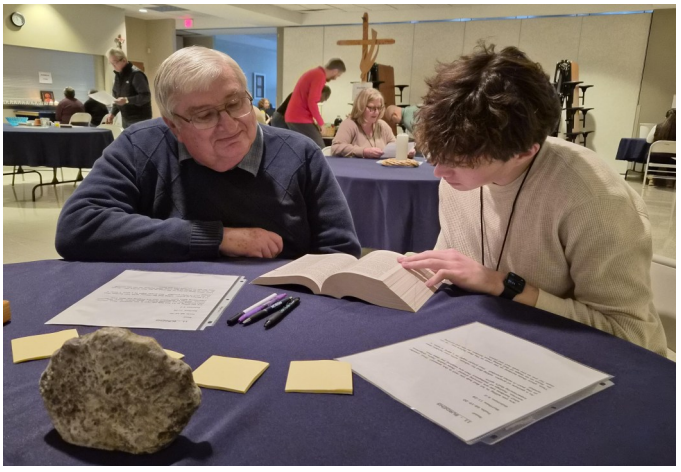
Building Lasting Relationships.

Helping Parishioners Find True Peace.

What are you waiting for? Scan the QR Code to register or contact Tony Serino, tserino25@gmail.com or 314-479-1043 for more information about how you can experience one of the most spiritual journeys of your life in only 36 hours.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (OCIA)

Two weeks ago we had our spiritual retreat day. Our Advent retreat had opportunities for quiet reflection and spiritual renewal featuring activities like prayer, meditation, and worship. The goals of our retreat were to foster spiritual growth, deepen our faith, and find peace and joy during this holiday rush. Please continue to pray for us on our journey.



QUILT-OF-THE-MONTH RAFFLE BENEFITS CHAPEL RESTORATION WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Congratulations to **James O'Loughlin** of Assumption Parish for winning the November quilt! The Assumption Quilters are hosting a quilt raffle with 12 different drawings that began in August 2025 and runs through July 2026. **All proceeds for the Quilt-of-the-Month raffle benefit restoring areas of the Assumption Prayer Chapel**, so be sure to support our worthy cause. Take a chance and spread the news about the raffle! There are **8 more chances** to win. Drawings will be held during the last week of each month. The winner wins the quilt assigned to that month. These quilts are valued at $500-$800 each.

- Tickets are **$10 for one ticket or $25 for three tickets**. Non-winning tickets remain in the raffle through July 2026.
- Checks can be made out to Assumption Church

You can fill out the tickets, drop it in Sunday's collection basket with your payment, turn it in at the Parish Office or via mail: Assumption Church, 403 N. Main St., O'Fallon, MO 63366. Photos of all quilts can be viewed at assumptionbvm.org.

The Assumption Quilters thank you very much for supporting Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church
Quilt-of-the-Month
August 2025 through July 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Phone: _____

Donation: $10 each or 3 for $25

PRINCIPAL'S PEN

On Thursday, November 6, our seventh grade students attended The Middle School Summit at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri: St. Louis. This special event brought together middle school students from Catholic schools across the Archdiocese for a day centered on faith, friendships, and the fire burning in our hearts for Christ. Throughout the day, students participated in prayer, engaging activities, and dynamic talks that encouraged them to grow as disciples. One of the highlights of the day was hearing from Assumption's very own youth minister, Mrs. Becky Whitaker, who served as one of the keynote speakers and inspired students to live their faith with joy and courage. We also had the opportunity to participate in a beautiful celebration of the Mass with Archbishop Rozanski.

Our students returned energized and uplifted, grateful for the chance to connect with others, deepen their faith, and reflect on the ways they can grow closer to Jesus. We were so grateful for this opportunity, provided by the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and look forward to attending for years to come.

In Christ,
Holly Woytus
Director of Religious Education

HELLO FROM ASSUMPTION YOUTH MINISTRY!

Happy Advent from Assumption Youth Ministry! It has been a beautiful semester of growth and faith at both Life Teen and EDGE. Life Teen's recent Fall Retreat, attended by over 45 teens, was a beautiful, powerful weekend of renewal and deepening of prayer through examining Mary's yes. Our middle schoolers at EDGE continue to explore that it means to live faith deeply, finishing out a semester of community, fun, and prayer. We have just a few more weeks left – keep praying for us, and know we are praying for you!

Sunday, December 7
Life Teen: Culture of Life
6:30-8:30pm in the Parish Center
All high school teens are invited to join us for a Life Night exploring how to build a culture of life through the lens of our parish's patron saints: St. Monica, St. Francis, St. Vincent de Paul, and the Holy Family. Teens, expect fun, food, fellowship, and powerful prayer.

Wednesday, December 10 | EDGE: Our Lady of Guadalupe
6-7:30pm in the Parish Center
Middle Schoolers are invited to come and dive into their Catholic faith in a new way! Join us as we explore the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and how Mary always points us to Jesus.

2026 EVENTS:

April 10-12: Luke 18 Retreat
June 8-13: Life Teen Camp Cana
July 17-19: Steubenville Conference

Follow us on Social Media:
Instagram:
@assumption_life_teen and @assumption_edge

Facebook:
Assumption Life Teen and Assumption EDGE

QUESTIONS? Contact **Becky Whitaker**,
Director of Youth Ministry; Life Teen Youth Minister
636-240-3721 ext. 243
beckywhitaker@abvmtech.org

LADIES' WHITE HOUSE RETREAT

FEBRUARY 26 – MARCH 1, 2026

Spend some time with the Lord by attending a White House Retreat with Assumption Ladies. The retreat given by Jesuit Priests, and based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, will be held at the White House Retreat Center, located at 7400 Christopher Dr. St. Louis. **The retreat will begin on Thursday, February 26, with check-in from 4:30-6:30pm and will end after lunch on Sunday, March 2.**

The cost of the retreat for the Jesuits is $425 per participant for retreat participation, lodging, and meals. No worries if you are unable to pay the $425, a free-will offering is taken after the retreat and participants are asked to give what they are able. The amount given for the free-will offering is known only by the participant giving the offering.

For more information or to register, contact Mary Keen, mlkeen155@icloud.com or 636-699-0407. Space is limited and reservations are not guaranteed after January 12.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DURING DECEMBER

As stewards of the monetary gifts that God has bestowed on us, we should give back to His Church and to other worthy causes. During the month of December, please support the general needs of the parish through the Sunday offertory, and consider the following specific causes and needs:

- **Cemetery Care:** Contributions support the maintenance of our cemetery and columbarium, honoring the memory of our loved ones and others who came before us.
- **Christmas Flowers:** Make our Church and Chapel joyous and bright for the Christmas season! Your contribution will help pay for the numerous poinsettias and other greenery that make our worship spaces more beautiful than ever!
- **Christmas Day, December 25, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary:** The Archdiocese of Saint Louis is fortunate to have its own seminary, located in Shrewsbury. Your support helps form the seminarians into healthy, holy, joyful priests who are ready to engage in our own time and culture and accompany God's people the same way Jesus did throughout His ministry.
- **St. Vincent de Paul:** Your contribution provides direct help to the poor in our local community. Since 1845, Vincentians have met face-to-face with individuals and families in poverty to provide support and help them through the most desperate times. Through your generosity, you help people struggling to survive, providing: clothing, shelter, food, medicine and more.

If you use online bill payment through your bank, please send a separate payment for the fund(s) of your choice and specify the name of the cause in the memo field of your payment instructions.

Thank you!

OUR GIFTS TO GOD AND PARISH

Weekly Offertory	**November 16, 2025**	**YTD 7/1/25–11/16/25**
Actual Collections	$40,012	$730,804
Budget Target	$45,000	$870,000
Surplus / (Shortfall)	$(4,988)	$(139,196)

Loan taken out in 2013 for expansion of our school

Original Loan	$3,306,127
Current balance owed	$128,051
Monthly payment	$20,923

Last expected payment will be in June 2026.

STEWARDSHIP *a way of life*

The Bible Teaches It (Mal 3:10-12)
We Believe It (Acts 4:32-36)
God Honors It (Gen 14:18-20)
TITHING

We are grateful to you for your presence, your participation, and your financial support of Assumption Parish.

If you would like to give online, please go to:
assumptionbvm.org/About-Us/Online-Giving
or scan the QR Code and create an account.

OFFICE INFORMATION

ADDRESS/PHONE/HOURS
403 N Main Street, O'Fallon MO 63366
636-240-3721 Parish Office
Hours: Monday–Thurs 8am-4pm
Friday 8am-2pm (summer hours)

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL
636-240-4474

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
636-272-4758 (Helpline)

BULLETIN NOTICES
Submit to Parish Office
Bulletin.assumption@gmail.com
by 9am on the Tuesday before Sunday's edition (five days prior)

SOCIAL MEDIA
Website: assumptionbvm.org
Instagram: @abvmofallon
Facebook.com: @assumptionparish
Youtube: @assumptionmedia1

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION
Religious instruction in the Catholic faith.
Call 636-240-1020 for information or to register.

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION
For one-on-one grief support, or information regarding our grief support series, which is held twice per year, contact Lynn Crews at 314-578-0741.